



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #6 - February 11, 2002

E-mail Addresses Wanted!!

Please give your email address to either your SEMA Area Coordinator or SEMA's Computer Information Specialist Helen Stewart hstewart@sema.state.mo.us in the message area include your name and organization.

CNN Poll Names Kansas City in Top 20 Cities Prepared for Terrorism

Recently, CNN conducted a terrorism preparedness poll comparing major American cities. Kansas City was listed in the top 20 cities and received high marks in preparedness, planning and response capabilities.

Bush's Budget Highlights First Respond Issues

President Bush's FY 2003 Homeland Security \$37.7 billion budget provides substantial increases to enhance first responder programs nationally, secure America's borders, combat terrorism, strengthen intelligence sharing, improve transportation security and support national defense related initiatives.

Bush earmarked almost \$3.5 billion for the First Responders programs to increase local response to terrorism/WMD. In Missouri there are over 80,000 firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMTs and emergency room personnel. The First Responder initiative will be administered by FEMA and designed to speed resources to states and localities.

Proposed funds for first responder activities nationwide include:

- \$105 million to help state and local governments develop comprehensive plans to prepare for and respond to a terrorist attack.
- \$2 billion to help states and local first responders could purchase personal protective gear, chemical and biological detection systems and interoperable communications gear.
- \$1.1 billion to train firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians to respond to and operate in a chemical or biological environment.
- \$245 million for exercises to support a coordinated, regular exercise program to improve response capabilities, practice mutual aid, and assess operational improvements and deficiencies.

Missouri Receives Presidential Disaster Declarations 33 Counties Impacted by Severe Winter and Ice Storm

On February 7, 2002, Missouri received a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 14 counties for Public Assistance and 33 counties for Individual Assistance from the severe winter and ice storm beginning January 30. Power was disrupted to more than 360,000 Missourians in the west central and northern counties. On February 6, it was estimated that power had been restored to approximately 90% of the residents who suffered outages. Private, Public and Non-Profit power providers estimated that full power restoration would be completed sometime during the weekend of February 10-11.

Damage Assessments are continuing - additional counties may be added to either the Public Assistant or the Individual Assistance Declaration requests.

Public Assistance will be available for eligible applicants for debris removal and restoration of public facilities damaged by the storm system. The declared counties were: Bates, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Howard, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Linn, Pettis, Platte, Ray, Randolph and Saline. Damage estimates continued to come to SEMA from counties not-yet declared for Public Assistance.

Individual Assistance will help residents, renters and businesses recover from damages caused by the storm system that are not covered by insurance. The 14 counties declared for Public Assistance were the core IA counties. Nineteen contiguous counties were also declared for IA. Those counties are: Adair, Audrain, Benton, Boone, Buchanan, Clinton, Caldwell, Chariton, Cooper, Grundy, Henry, Livingston, Macon, Monroe, Morgan, Shelby, St. Clair, Sullivan and Vernon.

Both declarations make Missouri eligible for Hazard Mitigation Assistance.

Documentary on USAR Teams At WTC to Air February 25

The A&E Network will air a new documentary series: PREMIERE Investigative Reports Special Edition: FEMA: Urban Search & Rescue on Monday, February 25 at 10/9 p.m. CT. The documentary will repeat 2/1 a.m. CT

Meet the brave men and women of the Urban Search and Rescue system who helped save victims of the September 11 attacks. Host Bill Kurtis talks with USAR teams from Missouri, Texas, and Utah about their heroic efforts at "ground zero" and describes how USAR teams plan to provide security at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.